

## **MEDIA ALERT**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CONTACT: Brenda Jones April 2, 2008 202-226-4673

## Rep. John Lewis Speaks on Anniversary of King Assassination at Moore's Ford Annual Commemoration

In July 1946, two African American couples were driving through Monroe, Georgia, pulled from their car by a mob of 12 to 15 unmasked men, shot hundreds of times, and killed. Then they were hung from nearby trees. One of the victims, Dorothy Malcolm, was seven months pregnant. No one has ever been prosecuted for these crimes. Annually a group of activists, organizations, and elected officials acknowledge the senseless deaths of these young citizens. This year, they will simultaneously commemorate the legacy and the death of Martin Luther King, Jr., also killed by an assassin's bullet, to raise awareness for the continuing need for prosecution of these and hundreds of other unsolved civil rights cases.

Rep. Lewis has sponsored the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act (H.R. 923/S 535) which establishes more federal support within the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice and directly to local law enforcement agencies to encourage the prosecution of these lingering cases. The bill has passed the House, but is awaiting Senate action. On the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s death, Rep. Lewis will join the Moore's Ford Commemoration.

WHO: Rep. John Lewis U.S. Representative, 5th Congressional District, Georgia

The Honorable Willie Burns, Mayor of Washington, Georgia and

President, Georgia Conference of Black Mayors
Helen Butler, Director, Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda
Edward Dubose, President, Georgia State Conference NAACP
Rev. Darryl Elligan, President, Concerned Black Clergy of Metro Atlanta

Robert Howard, Civil Rights Activist, Walton County
Hattie Lawson, Chair, Moore's Ford Memorial Committee

Janice Mathis, Vice President, Rainbow PUSH

Rita Samuels, Founder, Georgia Coalition of Black Women

Charles Steele, National SCLC President and former Senator, Tuscaloosa,

Alabama

Rep. Al Williams Chair of Georgia Legislative Black Caucus

WHAT: 40th Anniversary of Assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. and Moore's Ford Annual Commemoration

WHEN: Friday April 4, 2008 at 10:00 AM

WHERE: Moore's Ford Bridge, Monroe, GA in Walton County

(more)

## Other Related Events on that day

12 Noon Rally for Justice, 1st African Baptist Church, Monroe

1 p.m. Motorcade to the historic memorial marker on Highway 78 remembering the victims:

Roger and Dorothy Malcom, George and Mae Murray Dorsey (and the unborn infant)

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